

Though this may be a form letter, it accurately represents my strong belief that there is a disturbing trend in media toward biased and partisan broadcasts. If we cannot depend on our media to present "fair and balanced" information, we cannot be a true democracy. An uninformed voting public jeopardizes the fabric of our country. The airwaves belong to the people and if they are mismanaged and used against our best interests, they should be reassigned to more responsible stewards. Now - here is the "form letter" that I completely agree with. Why reinvent the wheel? Pappas Telecasting Companies' 'donation' of \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas is yet another example of a powerful media group abusing its privileged access to the public airwaves.

Localism is not served when a corporate headquarters decides to provide one side in local elections a louder voice than others. During election season, local audiences should be offered genuine debate -- not disingenuous offers to "purchase" an equal amount of response time.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free of charge and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Pappas' actions are legally questionable and cast doubt on whether Pappas truly intends to serve the public interest. Their actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Further, they show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than just a returned postcard. Thank you.